



Greetings from District 9-2 Councilman Ford Canale



City of Memphis Service Numbers

Animal Shelter:

901-636-1416

Citizen Service Center:

901-636-6500 (311)

City of Memphis Solid Waste**Holiday Line:**

901-636-6650

Health Department:

901-222-9000

Non-Emergency Police:

901-545-2677

Memphis City Beautiful:

901-522-1135

Memphis City Council Office:

901-636-7686

Memphis Code Enforcement:

901-636-7464

Memphis Light, Gas, & Water:

901-544-6549

**Memphis Police Department Crime
Unit:**

901-525-3673

Public Works:

901-636-6762

Shelby County Code Enforcement:

901-222-8394

Solid Waste:

901-636-6876

1st Quarter 2021 Newsletter

A Year Like No Other

There is no doubt that 2020 was an extraordinary year – definitely one we will never forget.

Who would have predicted as the last New Year's celebrations commenced that celebrating the arrival of 2021 would look completely different than it ever has in our lifetimes?

Still, the fact that we have made it to 2021 – with, possibly, an end to this world-changing pandemic in sight – is reason for hope. Memphis endures, now about to enter its 202nd year as a City; and perhaps closer than ever to being a City that truly offers opportunity for all citizens.

It is my intention to continue working toward that goal in the upcoming year, and I invite Super District 9 residents to join me. If you have ideas, concerns or simply need assistance in the year ahead, please contact me.



Community Empowerment Summit

In October, Councilman Canale co-hosted a Community Empowerment Summit at Pursuit of God Church, along with Pastor Ricky and Co-Pastor Sheila Floyd.

Speakers included Director Joann Massey of the City's Office of Business Diversity and Compliance, Angel Price of Tri-State Bank, Roby Williams and Mark Yates of the Black Business Association, Shelby County Commissioner Edmund Ford, Jr. and Andre Fowlkes of Start Co. Topics included financial literacy, applying for minority contracts, and strategies to help small businesses. There also was a Narcan training to help equip community members to respond to drug overdoses.

Councilman Canale expresses his thanks to everyone who attended and participated in these, and looks forward to more such events.

Memphis City Council 2021 Meeting Schedule

Meetings of the Memphis City Council are currently being held via teleconference.

COUNCIL MEETING DATES

- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| • January 5 | • July 6 |
| • January 26 | • July 20 |
| • February 2 | • August 3 |
| • February 16 | • August 17 |
| • March 2 | • September 7 |
| • March 16 | • September 21 |
| • April 6 | • October 5 |
| • April 20 | • October 19 |
| • May 4 | • November 2 |
| • May 18 | • November 16 |
| • June 1 | • December 7 |
| • June 15 | • December 21 |



Utility Assistance Information

With the arrival of winter, and with many people still struggling financially due to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, MLGW offers numerous assistance programs to help customers keep up with their utility bills. These include payment plans, Holiday Bill Break, On Track and several others. For more information on these programs, visit <https://www.mlgw.com/residential/assistanceprograms> or call MLGW's Customer Care Center at 901-544-6549.

MLGW also offers information on community resources for utility assistance, including the Shelby County Community Services Agency, the City of Memphis and the Metropolitan Interfaith Association (MIFA). For more information on these resources, call the Customer Care Center or visit <https://www.mlgw.com/utilityassistance>.



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Addressing Safety on City Streets

In the final months of 2020, Councilman Canale helped to introduce a trio of initiatives aimed at making City streets and roadways safer and more peaceful. Working in conjunction with the Memphis Police Department and some of Memphis' State legislators, the Councilman has brought or will bring before the City Council legislation aimed at reducing speeding, combatting illegal drag racing and addressing vehicular noise violations.

Councilman Canale introduced a change to the City Ordinance to drop the default speed limit from 30 to 25 MPH in order to increase safety on City streets. The majority of the roadways governed by the default speed limit are residential/ neighborhood or Downtown streets with a higher percentage of pedestrians, bike riders, and other vulnerable users.

The ordinance change will be voted on in one of the upcoming 2021 Memphis City Council meetings.

The Councilman announced working with Tennessee Senator Brian Kelsey and Representative John Gillespie to discourage drag racing. On Dec. 7, Sen. Kelsey filed Senate Bill 14, which would classify drag racing as a Class A misdemeanor. This bill will be heard in the upcoming January session of the Tennessee General Assembly.

The popularity of illegal drag racing seems to be on the rise and is becoming more dangerous. There has been an increasing number of complaints regarding drag racing on city streets.

"This legislation is a step toward holding reckless drivers accountable by adding the needed tools to crack down on drag racing on our streets," said Councilman Canale.

As with drag racing, the Councilman's Office has received an increasing number of complaints about excessive vehicle noise throughout Super District 9. Conversations among law enforcement and citizens in other areas have indicated this is a problem citywide.

If you have complaints or concerns about speeding, drag racing or traffic noise violations within the District, please e-mail Councilman Canale at jford.canale@memphistn.gov, or contact his Office at 901-636-6787.